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**BBNC Urges State of Alaska to Reconsider Opposition to Lake and Peninsula Borough Initiative**

*Anchorage, AK* – Today, Bristol Bay Native Corporation (BBNC) sent a letter to Governor Sean Parnell and Attorney General John Burns asking them to withdraw the State's *Amicus Curiae* briefing in the Lake and Peninsula Borough litigation concerning the Borough "Save our Salmon" ballot initiative. Earlier this month the Alaska Superior Court let the initiative remain on the upcoming Lake and Peninsula Borough ballot. The State's recent briefing aligns the State with the Pebble Limited Partnership and seeks to derail the initiative before the election. BBNC supports the right of the residents of the borough to vote. The initiative, if passed, would add language to the Borough's permitting code that would prevent large-scale resource extraction, like Pebble, that would have significant adverse impact on salmon habitat.

In the letter, BBNC expresses its disappointment with the State of Alaska's attempt to interject itself in the Alaska Supreme Court's review of the ballot initiative litigation. "BBNC believes in the right of Lake and Peninsula Borough residents to express their opinion through a vote," said Jason Metrokin, President and CEO of BBNC. "The State of Alaska should not stand between those residents and the ballot box."

BBNC encourages the State to hold off on its involvement in the matter until citizens of the Lake and Peninsula Borough have an opportunity to review and vote on the initiative. If the ballot initiative is approved, the State will have an opportunity to participate in the likely inevitable post-election litigation.

BBNC supports responsible resource development on the lands the corporation owns—as well as on other lands within the region—that are consistent with shareholder values. The corporation remains vigilant in protecting the interests of its shareholders and the region as a whole, and is dedicated to its mission of "Enriching our Native way of life."

**About BBNC:** BBNC is one of 13 Regional Corporations formed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971. The corporation is a diversified company with investment and business holdings in a stock portfolio and operating companies providing oilfield services, construction services, government contracting and petroleum distribution.

The corporation has more than 8,900 Eskimo, Aleut, and Athabascan shareholders with ancestral ties to the Bristol Bay region. More information can be found at [www.bbnc.net](http://www.bbnc.net)

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